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| FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL FORM | Application Number | 09/680465 |
| | Filing Date | October 6, 2000 |
| | First Named Inventor | Japuntich, Daniel A. |
| | Art Unit | 3743 |
| | Examiner Name | Aaron J. Lewis |
| Fax: 703-872-9306 | Attorney Docket Number | 48317US028 |
| Total Number of Pages in This Submission: 25 | | |
| Date: April 7, 2005 | Attorney for Applicant: Karl G. Hanson | |

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Application No.: 09/680465

Case No.: 48317US028

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Respectfully submitted,

April 7, 2005
Date

By: 
Karl G. Hanson, Reg. No.: 32,900
Telephone No.: (651) 736-7776

Office of Intellectual Property Counsel
3M Innovative Properties Company
Facsimile No.: 651-736-3833

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Patent


Case No.: 48317US028

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

First Named Inventor: JAPUNTICH, DANIEL A.
Application No.: 09/680465 Group Art Unit: 3743
Filed: October 6, 2000 Examiner: Aaron J. Lewis
Title: FIBROUS FILTRATION FACE MASK HAVING A NEW
UNIDIRECTIONAL FLUID VALVE

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop: Amendment
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| April 7, 2005 Date |  Signed by: Susan M. Dacko |

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the continuing duty of candor and good faith that is to be demonstrated before the United States Patent and Trademark Office, applicants submit copies of Answers in the civil litigation between the 3M Company and the 3M Innovative Properties Company ("3M") and Moldex-Metric, Inc. and the Louis M. Gerson Co., Inc. In both lawsuits, the defendants, Moldex-Metric, Inc. and the Louis M. Gerson Co., Inc. have filed Answers to the Complaints filed by 3M. In so doing, Moldex has filed counter-claims for a declaratory judgment of noninfringement and invalidity of U.S. Patent RE 37,974 to Bowers and U.S. Patent 6,843,248 to Japuntich et al. Moldex contends that each of these patents are invalid under 35 USC § 102 and 35 USC § 103. Moldex also asserts that both patents are invalid for "containing a specification and claims which do not meet one or more of the requirements of 35 USC § 112, i.e., written description, enablement, best mode, and definiteness."

The Louis M. Gerson Company also asserts that the claims of the '974 patent are invalid under 35 USC § 101, 35 USC § 112, and/or § 251 and under 35 USC §§ 102 and 103.

Please contact applicants' attorney if the Examiner desires more information regarding the defenses raised by each of the defendants.

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Respectfully submitted,

April 7, 2005

Date

Office of Intellectual Property Counsel
3M Innovative Properties Company
Facsimile No.: 651-736-3833

By: 

Karl G. Hanson, Reg. No.: 32,900

Telephone No.: (651) 736-7776

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| Substitute for form 1449/PTO (modified) INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use as many sheets as necessary) Page 1 of 1 | Application Number | 09/680465 |
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| | Art Unit | 3743 |
| | Examiner Name | Aaron J. Lewis |
| | Attorney Case Number | 48317US028 |

| U.S. Patent Documents | | | | | |
|-----------------------|----------|----------------------------------|--|---|---|
| Exam. Init.* | Cite No. | Document Number | Publication Date or Issue Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear |
| | | Doc. Number (Kind Code if Known) | | | |
| | A1 | US- | | | |
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| OTHER DOCUMENTS | | | |
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| | C1 | Moldex's Answer to Second Amended Complaint and Counterclaims (3M Company and 3M Innovative Properties Company v. Moldex-Metric, Inc., Civil Action No. 03-5292 MJD/JGL, United States District Court for the District of Minnesota) | |
| | C2 | Louis M. Gerson Company, Inc.'s Answer and Counterclaims to Plaintiffs' Amended Complaint (3M Innovative Properties Company and 3M Company v. Louis M. Gerson Co., Inc., Civil No. 05-CV-26 (MJD/JGL), United States District Court for the District of Minnesota) | |
| | C3 | | |

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